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DEATH OF HER MAJESTY, THE QUEEN.

Kensington, S. August, 1821.

This most melancholy event took place at twenty-five minutes past ten o'clock, an event more heart-rending never was heard of in this world. Death, the lot of us all, is not, under common circumstances, calculated to excite, in reflecting minds, any very great degree of grief, except the object be somewhat closely connected with us by ties of personal affection; but, at the death of this persecuted and oppressed, this cruelly-treated, this unfortunate lady, whose wrongs and whose sufferings are so notorious and so far surpassing in magnitude any thing of the kind that historians have recorded or poets feigned; at the fall of this open-hearted, affectionate, generous and gallant lady, under the peculiar circumstances of the case, who is there, worthy of the name of man, who can restrain the throbbings of his heart? Brutal, savage, indeed,

must be the breast that does not here yield to the feelings of compassion and of sorrow; detested be, as detestable are, those who have not a tear to let fall on her untimely grave.

As to the immediate *physical* causes of this event, they are, comparatively, of little interest, seeing that, when all the circumstances are taken into view, it is impossible to resist the conviction of her having fallen a victim to that disappointment, that chagrin, that cruel mortification, those intolerable indignities, to which Her Majesty has recently been exposed, and the endurance of which was too much for that susceptible heart which, has, at last, burst in the trial. That heart which could bear up against so many, such poignant and such long-lasting afflictions; that heart which could fearlessly conduct its owner to the bed-side of the plague to administer to the preservation of the afflicted; that heart which inspired seamen with courage to pass the straights, the dangers of which are proverbial throughout the world; that heart which felt

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no fear, when even sailors trembled; that heart, which, spurning at proffered security and ease, said, "to *England*, for there I'll *face my foes*;" that intrepid heart was not a match for the insult offered it by the lips of a *common Boxer*, turning his Queen from the door of the Temple containing the tombs of her Ancestors; and especially when that Queen, so recently and so gallantly supported by the nation, saw little or no indication of popular indignation excited by the unparralleled indignity. This was the shaft that found its way into that heart which had been proof against more and greater dangers than ever menaced any other human being.

Her Majesty, alas! knew nothing of the real state of the public mind upon this occasion; nothing at all of the numerous artifices which had been employed to divert, to draw off, to pack and to mislead. But, above all things she could not know the extent of the effect of that *complete uncertainty and ignorance*, in which the people had been, apparently studiously, kept with regard to her wishes and intentions. If the nation had been, as soon, or before, the intention to prosecute the affair of the

Coronation was announced, duly and *fully* apprized of Her Majesty's resolution to assert her right to participate in the ceremony, does any one believe, that, if the ceremony had taken place at all, she would have experienced what she did experience? So complete was the public ignorance, as to this matter, that I, who live on the road, just about half way between Cambridge House and Bradenburgh House, never even *heard* *so much as a rumour* of an intention to assert the right, until I saw some silly stuff upon the subject that was shown me in the *Times Newspaper*; and, until I actually saw an account of the miserable pleading before the Privy Council, I really suspected, that this stuff was a mere invention of that newspaper to make a *stir* with a view of keeping up its sale. In the answer to an Address from Nottingham, presented to the Queen, after the announcement of the king's intention to be crowned, her Majesty was advised to call it a "*vain pageant*." We saw still in her counsels the very man, who, in 1819, had made a volunteer offer to surrender her very *title as Queen*. We saw, in the report of the other Lawyer's

speech before the Privy Council, 20 pounds had been asked, were an explicit declaration, that, *what let for five shillings*. But, the *ever* might be the decision of the great impediment to any public Council, her Majesty would demonstrations in favour of her "*submit to it with resignation*." Majesty was the *state of total*

Now, amidst all this, what was *darkness* in which her advisers the nation to think? What was thought proper to keep that public I to think, who had as good *lie*, with regard to her desires and means, at least, as the public intentions.

general, of getting at correct Yet, this *apparent abandonment* information; and, as to her it evidently was that finished that Majesty's intention to present which insult had begun; for, if herself for *admittance*, the first the insult had been *resented* by heard of the matter was from the the people in a suitable manner, mouth of a market-garden-r's that would have been an ample man, who had been to Covent compensation. The truth is, Garden, and who was telling to however, the ground for all this some people, in Kensington-street, stinging mortification had been what had happened to the Queen laid long before. At the date of at the Abbey and the Hall the Queen's *triumph*, the Whig What public demonstration of faction flocked about her, and attachment to her cause was, under that fatal advice was given which under such circumstances, to be ex- induced her to *refuse* the pecu- pected? There were twenty-one niary grant, which, without cause regiments of soldiers brought into, assigned or assignable, she after- or near to, the metropolis on that wards *received*. It was easy to day. The streets were barrica- foresee, that the Whigs would not doed in a way that almost pre- obtain that power which they vented any body but soldiers on coveted; and, as easy to foresee, duty to move with safety to their that, when they found power un- lives. The peril of approaching attainable by means of the Queen, the scene of the Coronation was they would *abandon the Queen*. so great, that not a twentieth part This was not only foreseen, but of the seats were filled, which *foretold*, by me; and my foretell- had, at a great expence, been ings have been verified to the erected for the purpose of viewing *very letter*. My words were these, the procession. Seats, for which "by placing, or seeming to place:

"her dependence on the Whigs, parliament opened. The king
 "the Queen will lay the founda- had found it proper to propose a
 "tion of certain ruin to herself. grant to her. That grant was
 "They, even with the Queen at amp'e, and afforded all the means
 "their back, cannot obtain power of obtaining her rights, and, in-
 "without *the people*; and the deed, formed the foundation for
 "people they cannot have with- proceedings for that purpose.
 "out an express promise to give The grant should have been re-
 "them a *Reform*, which promise ceived in the same sort of way as
 "the Whigs will not make. The that in which it was tendered,
 "people *suspect* the Whigs; dis- but with an express *reservation*
 "like them; look upon them as of all claims and all rights. The
 "the bitterest of boroughmon- Queen *had triumphed*; that
 "gers. The people, therefore, triumph was *complete*; it was
 "will be extremely *jealous* at see- marked; it had just been *cele-*
 "ing the Queen co-operating *bra'ed*; and, therefore, no *new*
 "with this faction; and her Ma- struggle should have been entered
 "jesty will have made a poor ex- on without great caution, and,
 "change indeed; when she shall indeed, without a *certainty of*
 "have got Whig-promises instead *success*. The cause of the Queen
 "of popular zeal. With the stood well: her triumph had been
 "people grown jealous and cold, honored in a manner that had
 "and abandoned (as she surely carried the news all over the
 "will be) by the Whigs; with world; and the king, who had
 "enemies as bitter as ever, and before called for *an inquiry into*
 "with friends, who, though sin- *her conduct*, had now recom-
 "cere, have been, in some sort, mended to the parliament to give
 "cast off, yet would still serve her a suitable establishment.
 "her, but *they know not how*; What could be better? What
 "she will be covered with un- more consoling to Her Majesty's
 "avenged calumnies and insults; feelings? How could she be
 "and will, at last, quit the coun- better for the present, or have a
 "try in disgust, or be killed by a brighter prospect for the future?
 "long series of mortifications." Long the sport of one faction and

Never were prospects brighter then of the other; she was now
 than those of Her Majesty at the safe in the hands of that people
 moment when the last session of to whom she had so bravely and
 so wisely appealed.

She had actually nothing to do too, in a place where she had but to receive the money and to not before been attacked, and make a judicious use of it for the where the attack was as fierce as obtaining of the rest of her rights. the defence was feeble. During Every circumstance was favourable to her, whether abroad or this factious struggle came out at home. Those distresses, which the astounding fact, that her could no longer be hidden, were chief adviser, he who still took the coming forward and dissipating all the lead ostensibly in her counsels, had himself, in 1819, gone the delusion of the last thirty to these same ministers, and made years. The ministers were embarrassed at every turn. Every a voluntary offer to propose to thing was difficulty with them. her, on certain conditions, a surrender of her very title as Queen. Never were circumstances more This was an answer to all his favourable to any cause than the complaints with regard to exclusion of the circumstances of that day were to sion from the Liturgy; and, it the cause of the Queen, if that was an answer to her Majesty's cause had been in good hands. complaints too, as long as that

But, alas! the faction got man remained in her confidence. hold of her! They, in her name. Her Majesty had triumphed. made an assault upon the ministry. A real friend would have advised her to rest there for awhile; and failed in her name too! It was to make a pause there; to let that easy to see, that many would triumph remain undisturbed by vote against putting her name in any new attempt, until success the Liturgy, who would not have had been insured. Her enemies, voted for even the slightest degree who were smarting with mortification at their defeat, must have of punishment. To be ready to hailed with joy the opportunity, do right is a different thing from now actually forced upon them, refraining from doing positive of taking their revenge. Many wrong. This foolish, and, indeed, who would have trembled at the wicked enterprize of the thought of voting for a bill of out faction, did the Queen infinite pains and penalties, boastingly nite mischief. The struggle, voted against the putting of the which, in fact, was not for her, name in the Liturgy; and, this but for place, gave occasion for new decision, after a sort of new attacks upon her, and that,

trial, sent the news all over the *to the state of the country*; to world, that the Queen had been *show her how those circumstances* *condemned by the House of Com-* *must operate in her favour and* *mons.* Her great triumph was *against all her enemies*; to show partly obliterated by this *defeat*; her what a tower of strength and for it is the *last stage* of a struggle *rock of safety she had in that po-* *on which men always found their* *mularity of which her enemies were* judgment. *wholly destitute*; to pourtray in

From this time all was mortifi- *strong colours the brilliant pros-* *cation to the anxious and ha-* *pect that was before her*; to prove *arrassed mind of this unfortunate* *to her, that that prospect was* *Princess.* The faction, foiled in *founded in reason*; and to point their project of getting into place *out to her how she might employ* by her means, abandoned her by *her means so as to make herself* degrees; and the sort of *mystery* *a great actor in the approaching* kept up by her advisers, left the *crisis of the nation's affairs*: if people without knowing what *this had been the case, hope would* do or what to think relating to *have cheered her, and made her* her. The consequences that have *look with disdain on the reptiles* followed have been, though really *who kept aloof from her only be-* *horrible, such as every reasonable* *cause they did not foresee that* *man must have anticipated.* *which she foresaw.*

No *blame*, however, is to be *Alas! she had no hope*; no imputed, to the victim of all these *prospect of good*; she saw no *manœuvres and intrigues, of all* *thing that promised her any thing* *this craft, cruelty and perfidy.* but a species of voluntary im- She had a high mind, of which *prisonment for life.* She saw she has, at last, given the most *her enemies triumphing and* *decided proof.* She had a sound *to her* they appeared to be understanding, great penetration, *in a course of endless and un-* *uncommon activity, and undaunt-* *checked prosperity and insolence.* *ed courage.* But, her unhappy *Despair seized upon that mind,* *state compelled her to see with* *which had so long been sustained* *other eyes and to hear with other* *by hope, and her appearance at* *ears.* If there had been a man *the Abbey was the last effort of* *to describe to her clearly and* *a heart already half-shivered to* *fully all the circumstances relating* *pieces.* It was in vain for the

people, or for any individual who no son-in-law closed her eyes: she might happen to possess talent to had no dear and only child on serve her, to perceive the dangers whose lips to lay her last breath: of her situation. It was in vain the great shunned her disconsolate for us to wish to save her. She couch as if infected with the was beyond our reach. Like men plague; but, she expires in the on the beach who behold the arms of a feeling, a just and ge- wrecked mariner sinking, we nerous people, to whom her me- could do nothing but clasp our mory will ever be dear, and whose powerless hands together and offer grief at her sad fate will be her our tears and lamentations. evinced by never-ending detesta-

Thus fell this hapless lady, the tion of her barbarous and perfid- victim of unparalleled barbarity dious foes.

and of selfishness and perfidy

without a match in the history of

mankind. Not only was she in-

nocent of every thing savouring of

the crime laid to her charge; but

it is clear, that her very bitterest

enemies know her to have been

innocent. The triumph of those

enemies will not be of long dura-

tion, while she is now beyond the

reach of their malice, and is no

longer the sport of selfishness and

perfidy. Her peace of mind, her

fair fame, can no more be made

the subject of barter; to asperse,

to vilify, to insult, to betray he

can never again be steps in the

ladder of base ambition. The world

and all its troubles have sunk from

her view: her affectionate and

generous and grateful heart can

no longer be wrung by cruelty

and ingratitude; the hand, in-

deed, of no husband, no cousin.

WM. COBBETT.

THE

LANDLORD'S FORTUNE-TELLER.

No. 1.

Kensington, 7. August, 1821.

LANDLORDS,

I can wait no longer for the

Evidence, taken by the Com-

mittee, who were appointed to

inquire into the allegations in the

Petitions of the Agriculturasses.

The Committee made their *Re-*

port to the "Grand Council of

"the Nation," to the "Collec-

"tive Wisdom," as Mr. Perry

calls it, and the "Collective

"Wisdom" resolved to have

the *Report Printed*, at once, and

to leave time for *Luke Hansard* to print the *Evidence*. Luke and, from his billy, I have made prints at low price, I suppose ; and, therefore, has not been able to make much dispatch. The "Collective Wisdom" separated before Luke could finish the job, which I could have got done in *forty-eight hours* ! And now, the Collective Wisdom will hardly be able to see this Evidence before the Wisdom is in a state of *Collection* again.

Nevertheless, this *Evidence* is a matter of great importance ; for, whatever might be the character and views of the parties giving it, they suffered a great deal to leak out. They, at any rate, described *their state*, and that of *their labourers* ; and, before any sound opinion can be given on the Report itself, the Evidence must be read, or, at any rate, *its substance must be stated*. Viewing it in this light, I notified to my readers my intention to republish the whole of the Evidence, and to write a couple of Registers on the Report, referring, as I went on, to the Evidence. But, Luke not having got on with the printing, I have been compelled to give up this design ; and to betake myself to my *little bird*, who has given me a great deal of intel-

ligence about this same Evidence, So that the effect of Luke's *slow-printing*, will be found, at last, to have thrown no bar in my way as to this discussion.

I shall take the *Report and the Evidence*, and, from them, tell your fortunes as true as a hair. I shall show you, not the way downwards for that you must see, or feel, if you be as blind as a dobbin ; but, shall show you the depths into which you are descending, and the torments you have to endure. "Ye have set at nought all my counsel, and would none of my reproof. I will, therefore, laugh at your calamity, and mock when your fear cometh. For the turning away of the simple shall slay them ; and the prosperity of fools shall destroy them." Proverbs : Ch. i. V. 25, 26, 32.

These words, as applicable to you from me, I quoted at the time when the "stern-path" men had compelled me to flee to a foreign land. At that time you laughed. You laughed when the Lancashire Reformers were dispersed by a military force, or marched into a prison, only for being assembled to petition for Reform. You laughed and applauded at the

Manchester and Oldham affairs of 1819. You laughed when JOSEPH SWANN was sent by the Justices of Cheshire to be imprisoned for FOUR YEARS AND A HALF. You laughed when the Lancashirers threatened to *interfere* if I attempted to enter their town. You laughed when a man was sent to jail for ten weeks for going round a town to announce that I was come home in good health. You laughed when *Six-Acts* were passed. Oh! how you *laughed*, how you *mocked*, how you showed your bright *wit*, upon all these occasions! Well: I never *cried*. I was sure that the time would soon come for me to laugh: that time is come: laugh I do, and laugh and mock I will.

However, I shall discuss your case with *seriousness*, with this express reservation, that, when I speak of the sufferings of you and your petitioning *understrappers*, it is, if you please, to be clearly understood, that I rejoice at those sufferings for two reasons; first, because you have been enemies of Reform; and, second, because I am convinced, that those sufferings are absolutely necessary to the well-being and the freedom of the nation at large and to the stability and security of his Majesty's throne.

I am by no means going to take part with the *Fund-lords* (except on certain conditions); but, I mean to argue the case fairly, to do which no man, as far as *feeling* goes, is better qualified than myself, caring, as I do, not one single straw, which class suffer most. I hate the *muck-worm*; but, I am to consider, not my own natural propensity, in this case, but, what is best for the king and that part of his people who get their living by honest means. In one short phrase, I am to consider, under the success of *which* of the two Classes we are most likely to obtain a *repeal of Six Acts* and an *abolition of the Boroughs*. And, really, when I look at the *cause* of these, I do not see so clearly the efforts of the *muck-worm*. I cannot trace these, and especially the latter (which is by far the greatest evil of the two), to the *muck-worm*. Therefore, in this respect, I must, in my conscience, say, "*good muck-worm, harmless muck-worm; I will not hurt thee, muck-worm.*"

It is now evident to *all* of you, even the most silly (and, God only knows how silly that is), that you must be *wholly broken up*, or that the interest of the Debt must be reduced, and

"*Public Credit and National Faith*" become the subject of farces and ballads. This is now evident to *all* of you, except, indeed, those against whom statutes of lunacy have *already* been issued. The question, therefore, is, whether under these circumstances, it be better that you should be wholly broken up, or not. And to answer this question, we have simply to ascertain, if we can, whether your being wholly broken up, will, or will not, *tend to give us a Reform.*

To answer this last question we shall want a little time: time to see how the physic of manifestly approaching ruin and misery *works upon you.* If it make *Reformers of you*; then, indeed, we may lend a hand to keep you from being *wholly broken up*; but *mark it well; ponder well on my words*: if you do not become *Reformers*, every stroke that can be given *in favour of the Fund-lords*, will be given, and that, too, with hearty good will.

I can see your wishes clearly enough. You wish to see some reduction of army, salaries, places, sinecures, pensions, and the like; and then, to turn to the Fund-lords, and say; "come: we have seen *other things* reduced; and, now, you must reduce." I beg your pardon! This will not do. The money has been *borrowed*. Your *lands are pledged for the interest.* None of your shuffling. Deduct one single farthing you cannot, until *every thing else* be taken off that is not *absolutely necessary* to the bare existence of the government. The Clergy begin, for instance, to complain, that *they* are paying *too much* to the Fund-lords. Now, let us see how this matter stands. The Clergy (besides all their tithes and other income) have had given to them about *a million and a half of money* since 1800. Perhaps it may be nearly *two millions.* Whence did this money come? Answer me that question. Where did this money *come from*? Out of your estates? Out of the *revenue*? No such thing. *Loans* have been made *every year all the while.* There was not money enough arising from revenue to *pay* with; consequently that which was *given away*, came out of the *Loans*! Ah, a! What, you start, do you, Mr. Parson! Now, look at this matter, and say, whether the nation will ever bear to see the Clergy *keep this money*, whilst those who have *lent* the money shall suffer a *reduction* of the interest of the million and

a half lent! This would be so him to be payable after his death! flagrantly unjust; it would be What! are these fifty-five thousand such an outrage on all the principles of justice and honesty, that it never could be tolerated. Oh, no! Before the interest of the Debt can be touched, the Church must *refund* to be sure!

This is only *one item* amongst *hundreds*. It is easier for you to *talk*, then, than for you to *do*, in the way of causing a reduction of the Debt. Suppose, for instance, a man, have, in the course of the last thirty years, had *thirty or forty thousand a year given him*, and has been getting together an enormous estate with the money. It is, as in the former case, clear, clear as daylight, that this estate has come *out of the loans*. And, can it be possible, then, that the interest of those very loans would be *reduced*, while he *kept the estate*?

These, my lords of the soil, are little *spices*, little *foretastes*, of what you have to expect from us of the *Reform school*. We shall never, be you assured, sanction any reduction of the interest of the Debt, until we see the matter clearly settled with Burke's *Executors*, who have now received, since his death, *fifty-five thousand pounds of principal money*, on account of pensions granted to

What! are these fifty-five thousand pounds, which, for the reasons before stated, *must have come out of the loans to be kept by these Executors* (who are not named to us), and, while they *keep the principal*, is the interest *on the loans to be reduced*?

It is quite surprizing what we shall be able to do, when we come to *look things up* a little. We are not so poor as we think ourselves. At any rate, until we have *hunted up* all our odds and ends; till we have made a *muster* of our means, I, for my part, shall never be for a *reduction of the interest of the Debt*; that is flat and plain, and that I will stand to; and I ought to have as much, at least, to say and do in this matter as any two hundred of the very best of you. If you talk about *Reform of Parliament*; and talk about it, and begin to *call for it too*, BEFORE you call for a reduction of the interest of the Debt; that will, in my view of it, *alter the case altogether*. A sacrifice that we might be willing to make for the *general good*; a sacrifice in which *all* would participate, and by which *all* would be ultimately benefitted, would be cheerfully endured, while a sacrifice made of

great numbers for the benefit of again, stated; but, I am not a few only would be intolerable. for it *for the benefit of a few,*

Mr. BARING was thought "*rather strong,*" when he compared the horse tax repealers to a salem triumph; let the orange-boys walk over the Fox-hunters; but, really, if there be persons, who, after having borrowed, or approved of borrowing, money to carry on what has been carried on, and who now expect to get out of the paying the interest in full, without a Reform of the Parliament, they must, if not very dishonest, be very great fools. The case is this: the money was borrowed of the Fund-lords for the purpose of keeping down persons, accused of having *designs on rich men's property*: falsely accused, but that is no matter. Money was borrowed, for instance, to defray the expences of keeping down the *Radicals*. Very well. They have been *kept down*; but, will those who approved of the loan and of the object, think (now the desirable object is obtained) of refusing to pay the interest of the money borrowed for that object? *oo!* Rather than this, let Jerusalem triumph; let the orange-boys walk over the Fox-hunters; for, as I once before said, we, the mass of the people, should have a *better chance* with the orange-boys. I dare say that the orange-boys would be *for a Reform*; but, at any rate, I know this, that, if they were not, we should lead them the life of a dog; and, all your money-loving fellows like this: they will wink at, and even assist in, severities and cruelties of any kind, and to any degree. The wretches have approved of every act of injustice and cruelty committed within the last five years. They would *see a whole people stayed alive* for the sake of obviating a chance of losing their money, or any part of it. But, they are less *vigorous* than you: equally cruel, but *less vigorous*. the difference is that between the cuckoo and the kite. This *Number* of the *Fortune-*

Thus, you see, my Lords of the Soil and Boroughs, there is a *produtory* to those that are to *great deal to be said* upon this subject. I have *always been*, and I am now, for a reduction of the interest of the Debt, the reasons for which I have, over and over also the *Evidence*; and shall tell

your fortunes with great exactness. This Number, therefore, is merely a *flourish* previous to the charge. Though even here I have been unable to refrain from touching on matters that might have been reserved for a future stage of my work. In my next I shall take the *Report* by the throat, and show how little is required to satisfy the singularly moderate desires of the "Col-
"lective Wisdom."

WM. COBBETT.

TO THE
MONEY - HOARDERS.

Kensington, 7. August, 1821.

MY FRIENDS,

I did not intend to address you any more at present, hearing, as I do, from all quarters, that you are following the prudent course; but, there are some things, which I must yet mention to you, as corroborative of what I have before said, and which justify an apprehension, that the Old Beldam will use her "*sound discretion*," and *stop again*.

I hear from Liverpool, that the *Lancashire notes* are coming out directly! They are to be fabricated at Manchester, that scene

of 16th August, 1821. Whether they be to have a *Yeomanry Cavalry* man, instead of an *Old Woman*, engraven on the corner of them is more than I can say. There is to be a branch of this bank at Liverpool; and, this is to be called *Cash Payments*.

Now, observe, there never yet has been any *country-bank* in Lancashire, which contains about a *ninth part* of the whole of the population of the kingdom. This has preserved the people of that country against the consequences of *bank-breaking*, which has produced such ruin in so many cases, in other countries. Now this great country is to have country notes as well as the rest; and this is the reason; the Bank does not send down *gold* enough to circulate: the people are *sending up* for the gold at a great rate; in order to check this, country notes are to come out. They will be put into circulation by the bull-frog makers of those pretty *glossy paste* things that ornament the lovely jet of the free negro-women in America, and that dissolve in the washing-tub like glue in the pot. The weavers and spinners and other poor squalid creatures that toil from day-light to dark in summer and from candle-light to candle-light

in winter, and from infancy to old age, for these lords of the Loom, *must* take the notes; and thus, the drain upon the Old Lady will be checked.

But observe, her *issues* will still be diminished in the same proportion; and, the great cause of *reduction of prices* will continue to work most gloriously. Pray, bear in mind, that, at the time when the Old Lady began to pay in gold, she was compelled by Peel's Bill to pay in bars at 77s. 10½d. an ounce; that is to say, at the *Mint-Price for standard gold*. So that, though the public at large could not go and get gold, because the Old Lady was not compelled to pay in any sum less than 60 ounces, which amount to 238l. and some odd shillings, the Old Mother was reduced to short commons; for, if her paper was very abundant, gold would sell for more than the nominal worth of the paper; and, the moment that came to be the case, the *Jews would go and get her bars and send them out of the country*. Hoarders would get them too; but the Jews would, at any rate.

So, you see, her paying in Sovereigns was nothing at all. If she had not issued the Gold in this way, the Jews would have

had it in bars. It is Peel's Bill that is working the Old Mother, and the Old Mother it is that is working the Landlords; and not the *importation of corn* as the

Agriculturasses still pretend to believe. That Bill was a deed that will immortalize the "*Col-lective Wisdom*." It is a subject on which I could dwell for ever. I hung on it as a young poet does on the praises bestowed on him by Reviewers, whom he has bribed with more than the profits of his poem. It was such a deed! Such a blow to the infernal, pauperising system, that, on account of it, we never can sufficiently applaud the "*Collective Wisdom*," who, in this case, inflicted a punishment on itself, such as no other body have ever had the justice to inflict. That Bill, which was, indeed, passed under the influence of a species of panic, compelled the Old Mother to pay in *Gold Bars* at 81s. an ounce from February to October 1820; at 79s. 6d. an ounce from October 1820 to May 1821; at 77s. 10½d. from May, 1821 to May, 1823; and, after that, to pay cash for all notes upon their being presented.

So, you will observe, that the Old Mother's tether is not very long now. Not much more than

a year and a half; and, during *ruptey*! Thus it is, that the cir-
 even *that time*, neither she nor *culating money of the country*
 her *whelps* about the country can *becomes less in quantity*: thus it
 make free with issuing paper; it is that *prices fall*: and yet the
 because, if they do, the *price of Agriculturasses*, so 'cute in all
gold will rise; and then away go other matters, cannot see or pre-
 the Jews and shoulder off her *tend not to see, this*; and keep
 bars; for, mind, she is now *com-* on bellowing for *high prices*, when
pelled to give gold bars in ex- the thing is as impossible as for a
 change for her paper, and those *river to run up hill*! Hang the
 bars at the *sterling price*! There- *vagabonds*, they *do* see it. But,
 fore she and her *whelps cannot* they have felt the sweets of de-
augment the quantity of their *precated paper-money*, which
 paper. They dare not do this; *enabled them to pay all their*
 for, if they do, away go the bars; *taxes and to make fortunes be-*
 the law cannot be fulfilled; and *sides, out of the blood and bones*
 there is a *blowing up at once*; of their labourers; and so strong
 not only an insolvency, but a *is their liking for the thing*, that
bankruptcy, open and declared. they are pursuing it and trying to

Now, mind how this *pinche* *regrasp it after its very component*
 the pretty gentleman at White- *parts are dissolved.*
 hall! They, formerly, needed But, it may be asked, why this
 to care very little about the *rev-* *bar-work* should be a *check upon*
ue. If they did not collect the *country-bankers*, seeing that
 enough to pay the *dividends* and *they are not compelled to pay in*
 other things with, the Old Mother *bars of gold*; why *they* should
 had only to set her mill to work, not thrust out their stuff to supply
 and to *advance* the rags. But, faith a gap made by the Old Mother's
 she dares not do that *now*! If drawing in? The *why* is this:
 she were to do this, she would When a country ragman puts forth
 augment the quantity of her *this rags*, he is obliged to have
 paper; that would make the a certain *credit* with *his banker* in
 ounce of gold worth more London, and that banker has a
 than 77s. 10d.; that would set mortgage, or title deeds, or stock,
 the Jews and Hoarders to work; in deposit with him for his *secu-*
 away would go her bars; and she *rity*; for, if the ragman be run
 must come to a flagrant bank- upon, he must have this London

resource to apply to, or he is gone at the *first shot*. Now, this deposit must be in proportion to the quantity of rags that the ragman has out; and, therefore, as prices of land fall, the ragman has less and less means of making deposit, and his credit becomes *smaller*, and, therefore, his quantity of paper must diminish. Then, again, as prices fall, he has *less rags called for*. For instance, farmer *Slashem*, the yeomanry cavalry Captain, has 100 quarters of wheat in stock, worth 15s. a bushel, or 600l. in the whole. He goes and gets readily enough, 400l. of the rags of *Scut* and *Co's*, in the way of *discount*, and thus these rags get about and tend to keep up prices. But, when *Slashem's* wheat is worth only 5s. a bushel, though he has still 100 quarters in stack, *Scut* will not let him have on *discount* more than 100l. of his rags. *Slashem* may wish to get more, but *Scut* knows the worth of the wheat stacks, and will not let him have more; and thus the quantity of the rags in circulation is checked, and kept effectually within bounds.

But, that the country rags must be kept in check by the *bars* is clear from another view of the matter. The country ragman is *compelled* to pay in the *Old Mother's* notes.

The *Old Mother* is *compelled* to pay in *bars*. Therefore, if gold rise in price, and I have some country rags, I get these rags changed into the *Mother's* rags; and go to her and demand her *bars*. The country ragman cannot issue more rags than he can, if called on, pay in the *Mother's* rags; if he do, he *breaks*; and then all his rags are done for at once.

Thus all depends on the *bars*, those dearly beloved bars that Peel's Bill compels the *Mother* to pay in; and this it is that *pinches* the pretty fellows at Whitehall; this it is, that makes the hair of their very wigs creep upon their heads; this it is that gives them what is called *goose-skin*, even in the dog-days. How merry, how jovial were they, when it was only to call upon the *Mother* to set her mill to work to make their "*advances*" to pay the Dividends and other demands! She cannot, for the reasons before stated, do this now. On the contrary, she must, in all probability, *require repayment of her former advances!* And this, I am told, is really the case. And I hear, that some very lively discussions have been going on between them and her upon this subject. She wants, I hear, not only *all* the money from them

that will be required to pay the man, Lord Palmerston said were *Michaelmas dividends*, but *two millions more*. And what does the separate from the people; the Old Personage want with these *enormous expences* appear not to *two millions*, and of her *own rags* be intended to be touched. And, too? Why, that she may *destroy* as far as I can learn, nothing but *them!* Destroy them? Say you; the lopping off, or the bilking the for *what?* Why, to prevent them; rib, of *clerks*, is all that is intended any where. This grand from rising up in judgment against her; that is to say, to prevent affair will not, then, amount to them from being *brought to her in a million*; that is to say, not to a demand for gold. She must, in tenth part of the *real increase of* all probability do this, or *stop* *expence*, which has taken place *paying gold*; aye, and in *bars too*, in *this very year* by means of the in spite of Peel's Bill; and that, rise in the value of money, occasioned by Peel's Bill. There you know, would be the *finish*.

Thus, you see, the pretty gentlemen, the "*stern path*" men. *Judges*; there are the the *hole-diggers*, the *thunderers*. *Police Justices*, and many others, are, at last, by no means upon a whose salaries were *actually doubled* on account of the *fall* in a "*bed of roses*." They have now value of money; and are *they* not something to do besides framing now to be reduced? And will holy-alliances and praising Manchester Magistrates. They are any one talk of *reducing the interest of the Debt*, till those salaries be reduced one half?—busy in works of "*retrenchment*," There are the *pensions*, there are and now let us look a little at this the *grants*, there are a thousand work of retrenchment!

It is said, that they are going things; there is the *Civil List*; to take two companies from each all settled when money was of regiment of foot and two troops *low value*, when mutton was from from each regiment of horse. a shilling to ten pence a pound; Poor paltry affair! This, and and are *they* not to be reduced all that I hear *talked* of in the when money is of *high value*, and army will not take off *half a million*. What is that? *The Staff*; when mutton is from six pence to four pence a pound? There is the *Military Colleges*; the *Bar*; Henry Watkin Williams Wynn, *racks*, which that bright gentle- who, in about 1804, had a pen-

sion of 800l. a year settled on Michaelmas day *may* see you without him *for life* for having been Minister at Dresden *for four years*. and, May day *may* see something Bacon was, in 1804, at more than a great deal more serious in your a shilling a pound; and is he to affairs.

have the same now, when bacon Hoarders, look at the increase is at 6d., 4d. and 3d. a pound of *forgeries*. A woman, the other And is the fund-holder's interest to day, from some Market, brought be reduced on account of the before a Magistrate a man who lowness of prices? Oh, monstrous! Never, never, shall that had presented a rag, which she interest be reduced, without my Mother's *rag-inspector* was sent most strenuous opposition to it. for, who declared the thing to be until Henry Watkin Williams's a forgery. He was asked, whether Pension be reduced a great deal the Bank would *prosecute*, and he more than *nine tenths*! said, *no*! The man, who tendered the note, said that he took

However, this paltry "*re-trenchment*," as it is called, is it from a tradesman, *whose name* made a great mouthful of in the *was on the back of it*. The Magistrate asked, whether the Bank corrupt news-papers. And they would send, in order to trace the speak of it, too, in a sort of way, that clearly shows, that *forgeries*. The agent went for *instructions*; and the Old Mother *they*, at least, are preparing for a call upon the *fund-holders to reduce*. Look well at this, ye simple stock-holders! Recollect now tender *sovereigns*; you now *who* it is that puts forth these tender *gold*; and, let all those ominous hints! Call to mind *who will not take it*, hunt out these writers are, and what they *forgeries* themselves. You have have in view. Recollect, that done enough, God knows, in your they are mere mouth-pieces; time, in the *prosecuting way*. mere funnels; mere tools; but You have banished and hanged tools in hands that have great enough of these paper-gentry: power, and that seldom desist at leave them now to cheat and hang an obstruction from trifling causes. one another: it is now their own Bear all these in mind; and *get* affair; and, really, it matters, *gold while it is going* Old Mi- amongst those who prefer paper

to gold, very little which is for *gold and silver*, Mrs. Fly-
cheated, or which is hanged, blow?

You are perfectly right, my old Mr. F. I do; but the cus-
Dame, and so you were too a tomers don't bring them always.

the time of passing Peel's Bill: BANK. I cannot help that. I
you were the only body that am ready to give gold for all my
uttered a word of sense upon the notes.

subject. I, in Long Island, and Mrs. F. But, the customers
you, here, told the "Collective *don't bring it.*

"Wisdom" what a torment BANK. You should tell them
they were creating for themselves. to come to me and get it.

There was this difference, indeed, Mrs. F. Then I should *lose*
that you wished them to *stay* their *their custom.*

hands, while I wished them to *push on.* BANK. Well, I cannot help
push on. hat.

The market-woman, who took COBBETT. Mrs. Flyblow, turn
the man before the Magistrate, to me just for a moment. I
said, that there were *NOW* s thought you said, that you and
many forgeries about; that she your neighbours *lost* a good deal
and her neighbours *had lost* s of money by taking these for-
much from this cause, that they geries, and that you had no
must be *ruined*, if the forgeries means of distinguishing, in many
were *not put an end to!* cases, a forged note from a real

BANK. But, whose *fault* is good note. this, Mrs. Flyblow?

Mrs. F. Why the forger's and Mrs. F. Yes, a *great deal* I
utterer's fault, to be sure. have *lost*, and am everlastingly

BANK. Why do you take *ins!* losing in this way by the *wil-*
these forgeries, Mrs. Flyblow? *ins!*

Mrs. F. Because it is so *diffi-* COBBETT. Softly, Mrs. Fly-
cult to know which are forgeries blow. It is best to carry things on
and which are not. gently.

BANK. Why do you take *any* Mrs. F. *Gently*, indeed!

notes at all, then, Mrs. Flyblow? *Softly*, indeed! What, do you
take the parts of the *willins*?

Mrs. F. Because people bring COBBETT. No, Mrs. Flyblow,
them. I do not take their parts at all,

BANK. Why do you not ask though, perhaps, I may not view

their trade with quite so much horror as you do; seeing that, though wicked in itself, it may have a tendency to produce good to us all.

Mrs. F. Not view it with horror! Produce good! Why you must be a pretty sort of a fellow. Does it not cheat and help to ruin me and my honest neighbours, and to bring many and many poor souls to the gallows? Did not the Bank hang a poor woman! It makes one's heart bleed to think of it.

COBBETT. But, now, Mrs. Flyblow, really you are angry without cause; for the fault you now find with the Bank is that it will not stir an inch to hang any forger at all!

Mrs. F. Aye; that's a different matter. These *willins* have robbed me of scores of pounds; and, with all the veins in my heart I would see them hanged and cut up into quarters and their heads and plucks hung up to dry.

COBBETT. But, my good Mrs. Flyblow, if we can guard ourselves against these "*willins*," and effectually guard ourselves too, without any of this bloody work, is not that a great deal better?

Mrs. F. Yes, but how are we to do it?

COBBETT. Why, take nothing but gold and silver.

Mrs. F. But, if customers won't bring gold or silver?

COBBETT. They will, if you sell your meat a little *cheaper* on that account.

Mrs. F. What, sell my meat *cheaper*? Cheaper! Why, it is as cheap as dirt already! I don't get *that* by it! (*Pointing her hand up towards the houses.*)

COBBETT. But, Mrs. Flyblow, you say, that you *have lost* a great deal, and that you are *everlastingly losiny* by the forgeries.

Mrs. F. And so I am.

COBBETT. Now, then, if you were to ask your present price for meat, which, of course, is *very reasonable*, and then offer to make on that price a trifling abatement, say 6d. in the pound, if paid in gold or silver, do you not think that that would, another time, make your customers take the trouble just to walk to the Bank and get their notes changed? The offer might bring you the coin at once, even for the present time; but, the *next time*, it would, surely, bring you the gold or silver; and thus you would be safe from the roguery of forgers, would have nobody to call "*willins*" and to endeavour to cause to be changed.

Mrs. F. What! Lower my price! Undersell the market!

COBBETT. You do not lower your price, my good woman, you only give sixpence.

Mrs. F. "Woman" indeed! Undersell the market! "Woman!" "Good woman!" (*Exit Cobbett in haste*) a mean spirited fellow. He's no gentleman! Never bought a leg of mutton in 's life without squinting about after the udder! "Good woman" indeed!

It is useless to reason in such a case. You must leave the thing to what the speaker, Abbott, called "the healing hand of time;" and this "healing hand," heartily seconded by the forgers, who now seem to have *carte blanche*, will go on pretty speedily. The Old Mother is perfectly right to meddle with no more prosecutions. She let us see, last spring, that she could do the thing roundly, when she had a mind! But, when she began to pay in gold, she, very prudently and very justly, left the work of hanging forgers to those who had a taste for it.

This forging affair greatly changes the state of the paper-money; for, however brutally ignorant men may be, they must see the danger of taking Bank notes amidst such showers of for-

geries. The inimitable Commission having failed to find out anything to answer the purpose of the projectors, the forgeries present an obstacle to Peel's Bill such as is not to be overcome without a resolution to reduce the rate of all payments of every description; and to attempt, even to attempt this, is a great deal too much to be expected from the "Collective Wisdom" in its present state.

In the meanwhile all the indications of a most stormy next Session of Parliament are visible. The long continuation of cold weather, which really lasted from April to July, and the fortnight of wet weather which succeeded that, with very little intermission, have kept up the price of wheat to what it was in the month of April. Had such a spell of weather taken place without being accompanied by the operation of PEEL'S Bill, it would have raised the price of wheat three shillings in the bushel at least. If we should now have fine weather until the middle of September, the wheat will still be, before Christmas day, at an average price of four shillings, taking England through; and thus, in spite of a most unfavourable season at the time when the ear is

formed, the Bill, PEEL'S blessed market on Saturday, the best Bill, will keep down the price six shillings a bushel below what is necessary to enable the land to contribute its share towards the payment of the interest of the Debt.

But, if the wheat were to be even at ten shillings a bushel, in consequence of *bad Seasons*; or, in other words, in consequence of a *deficient crop*; that high price would be *no benefit* to the farmer: because, as must be evident to every one, two bushels of wheat at five shillings is equal in amount to one bushel at ten shillings. And, indeed, into what times have we fallen, when it is supposed possible; when there is any creature that can suppose it possible, that the Farmer is to see prospect of relief in a scanty crop.

Cattle, Sheep, Pigs have not been affected in their prices by the weather. A very intelligent person has assured me, that he himself saw on Friday last, sold at Smithfield market, a prime lot of Essex calves, of the very best description, for *two shillings and sixpence* a stone. The vile and infamous newspapers of London stated the price of that day to be from three shillings to *four and eight pence* a stone. In Newgate

market on Saturday, the best veal fetched *two and three pence* a stone by the quarter; the best mutton *two and sixpence*; the very best pork *two and four pence*; and pigs, weighing about a hundred pounds weight, *two shillings*; that is to say, *three pence a pound*; and that is about one penny cheaper than it was when I was born. I had these prices of Newgate market from a dealer in cattle, who had just come from that market, and who is a gentleman that I have known for a great many years. If we believe the infamous newspapers, all these articles were selling for more than one third in every instance, and that of pork for double the real selling price! What can these prostituted papers publish these lies for? That they find their *advantage* in it there can be no doubt; but, let people be upon their guard how they pay attention to what they say.

The meat forms much more than one half of the whole of the produce of the land. It comes from the most heavily taxed and heavily rented land, too. In this part of agriculture there must be total ruin. Salesmen in London, who sold to have thousands of pounds of the money of graziers

in their hands, have now, not a cash payments, *all the sufferings* penny. A total bankruptcy, *would be at an end!* How this extending over whole districts, did come into the head of the must be the inevitable consequence. Collective Wisdom, God only knows; but that it did get there talk about *time*; the operations is certain; and I, with great glee, of time; for time must make the laughed at it in Long Island, and thing worse instead of better. sent my laughings over, much The several days, weeks, and about the time that the Manches- months between this time and ter Magistrates were receiving May 1 23 are so many steps the compliments of Sidmouth. downward into the pit of ruin; The Debates, as they are and when the farmer and landlord called, which took place with arrive at the last step; when they regard to that Bill shall never be get into the pit itself; there their forgotten as long as the name of situation is to be *permanent!* WILLIAM COBBETT shall be re- beg you to mark this well; that membered. The "*Collective* the end of the progress, is, not "*Wisdom*" had passed acts which like that of a fatiguing and ha- and made it necessary for me to rassing journey, succeeded but flee to a foreign country, but the repose and renovation; but like "*Collective Wisdom*" could not that of such a journey succeeded prevent me from watching its by sufferings more intolerable motions, and, above all, from than those of the very last and making my comments upon these most painful stage of the journey Debates and upon this Bill; which itself. In short, the descent Bill, if it had never passed any taken altogether strongly resembles other, would have served suffi- bles that which Poets have feigned- ciently to give it a character with ed in cases of condemnation to all posterity. the infernal regions.

Let us now, my friends, take The "*Collective Wisdom*," as I another look at the landlords, noticed at the time, appears to who were so vigilant with regard have got into its head a notion, to the Radicals; so eager to put that the return to cash payments them down, that they did not would produce suffering, only perceive, that they were most *during the progress*; and that effectually *putting themselves* when they arrived at the real down. They, now, when it is

much too late, begin to repent of this latter part of their thundering exploits. Radicals are no longer the Devil that they dread. They have now found a much more formidable enemy, and that, too, of their own blessed creation. The Radicals only asked for a share; for a small portion, of political rights. But the Fund-holders, ask for, or rather take without asking for; a large portion of things much more substantial. The Radicals were charged with a wish to get at the property of the landlords; but the fund-holders *take the property*, and as a matter of right. The Radicals were charged with a design to make a *revolution*; but, Lord Milton, one of their greatest foes, now tells us that a *revolution is silently* going on!

This is very true; but, this revolution will proceed too rapidly to go on in *silence* to the end. It will make a *noise* by and by, and will witness a grand struggle. It is this struggle, my friends, the *Hoarders*, that will give rise to events, that will evince the wisdom of your conduct! *Get the Gold*, and you will be safe.

I am your friend,

WM. COBBETT.

FRIEND CROPPER.

This sleek gentleman has published a *second letter* to "*Friend Wilberforce*," which I insert below. It was, apparently, written *before* he could get a *sight* of my first letter in answer to his first. I do not know, that I shall take any further notice of this second effusion of cunning and malice; but, I insert it, that even this piece of slipperiness may not have the smallest room to accuse me of unfairness. As to the question at issue I care nothing at all about it. West Indians are as much the enemies of *our freedom and happiness* as East Indians. But, as the West Indians ask for no money out of the fruits of our labour, and as the East Indians do, I like the former more, or, rather, *I hate them less*, than I do the East Indians. If my sleek friend cannot put a stop to his pen, he would, before he go into a new matter, do well to set about *answering my two letters*; for, I can assure him, that, until he do that, he may as well "*be in the quiet*,"

"*Liverpool, 6th Month, 19th, 1821.*"

"*WILLIAM WILBERFORCE,*"

"*Respected Friend,—In the letter which I addressed to thee*

" on the subject of the proposed
 " additional duty on East India
 " sugar, I endeavoured to show
 " that commodities must neces-
 " sarily be produced much
 " cheaper by free men, in the
 " country of their birth, than by
 " slaves, transported from Africa
 " to the West Indies. I also
 " endeavoured to show that the
 " reduced price of cotton, sugar,
 " &c. had the effect of increasing
 " the population of slaves with-
 " out fresh importation: because,
 " a low price may pay under
 " good treatment where less is
 " produced, though it might not
 " pay for that abuse of them
 " which requires a continual fresh
 " supply. From these premises
 " I concluded that so long as man
 " bore any price at all, produc-
 " tion had not reached that low
 " point to which it would inevi-
 " tably be driven, both by po-
 " licy and humanity, if not pre-
 " vented by a tax on the labour
 " of free men, or on the pro-
 " duce of it; and whether slaves
 " are or are not imported illicitly
 " into the British colonies, the
 " opening of the most extensive
 " and highest market in the world
 " to sugars cultivated by free
 " men, must tend to extend and
 " encourage that cultivation, and
 " bring the subject of free and

" slave cultivation the sooner to a
 " fair trial.

" In order to promote discussion
 " on the subject, and with a view
 " to show the impolicy and in-
 " humanity of the projected duty;
 " I shall again trespass on thy at-
 " tention.

" When any body of men ask
 " for relief from a particular
 " pressure, I consider it their
 " duty to look at the effects of
 " the remedies they propose on
 " other bodies, and on the nation
 " at large. A proposition for
 " the repeal of a tax, affecting
 " all, is at once understood; but
 " when one class of traders pray
 " for a tax on another, it will ge-
 " nerally be found, on investiga-
 " tion, that the claim hinges on
 " a privilege or monopoly in-
 " vaded by the superior industry
 " and economy of their rivals.
 " This, it appears to me, is the
 " case in the present instance;
 " and therefore any relief which
 " is granted to the West India
 " planters, by fixing an additional
 " duty of 5s. per cwt. on East
 " India Sugars, will be a direct
 " tax on the people of this coun-
 " try to the same extent; this
 " duty on 150,000 tons, the an-
 " nual consumption, amounts to
 " 750,000l.: now, whether the
 " effects of this tax be to raise

“ the price, or to prevent a fall, “ ports to the colonies, of about
 “ just so much as the people lose. “ six millions sterling, there is
 “ the West India planters will “ probably only a very small
 “ gain. The proposition, there- “ portion which could be had
 “ fore, only goes to the removal “ cheaper any where else.
 “ of a burden from one class of “ As to the arrangement at
 “ men to another, at the expense “ the time of opening the East
 “ of the national welfare. “ India Trade, of a difference of
 “ I do not understand the dis- “ duty, I think it must be under-
 “ tinction between the British “ stood to mean, what it really
 “ Colonies in the west, and “ was, a difference of 10s. per
 “ British possessions in the east, “ cwt. ; if prohibition had been
 “ except that those of the east “ meant, it was just as easy to
 “ have a greater latitude of “ have made it so ; but the East
 “ trading with other countries. “ India Trade are under obli-
 “ This privilege, however, is “ gation to the West, for bring-
 “ not given without affixing “ ing this arrangement under
 “ some increase of duty. But “ review ; the impolicy of it, as
 “ if the West India planter faces “ it regards the national welfare,
 “ the restrictions under which he “ must soon become manifest.
 “ labours to be injurious, would “ If the East India sugars were
 “ it not be more natural and “ admitted on an equality of
 “ more consistent with his own “ duty, or on the same terms as
 “ interest, and that of the coun- “ before the opening of the
 “ try at large, to apply for the “ trade, it is very probable, that
 “ removal of those restrictions, “ in *a very few years*, a popu-
 “ rather than to ask for an in- “ lation in the East would be
 “ creased duty on the produce “ turned to the growth of sugars,
 “ of the east. If the West “ equal in number to the slave
 “ India planter were permitted “ population of all our West
 “ to sell his produce in the high- “ India colonies ; then, in that
 “ est, and to buy commodities in “ case, and indeed long before
 “ the lowest, market, I have no “ the cultivation became so ex-
 “ doubt but that he would find “ tensive, there would be a re-
 “ England afforded him advan- “ duction in the prices of sugar,
 “ tages which the rest of the “ equal, at least, to the reduction
 “ world could not. Of the ex- “ in the duty on East India

“ sugars; if that was 10s. per
 “ cwt. it would make annually,
 “ £1,500,000 sterling; or, if
 “ the proposed additional duty
 “ of 5s. per cwt. had added so
 “ much to the price, it would
 “ make a difference altogether
 “ of £2 250,000 per annum,
 “ to the consumers of Great
 “ Britain.

“ Though the East Indies
 “ might make, I think, as strong
 “ a claim to the supply of the
 “ country, at a difference of 3s.
 “ per cwt. even as the old colonies
 “ do, to the exclusive supply of
 “ these markets, and certainly a
 “ much stronger than the newly-
 “ conquer'd ones of Demerara,
 “ &c., and this claim is not less
 “ sened by its exact accordance
 “ with the interests of the coun-
 “ try, in which respect I shall
 “ now consider this question.

“ Whilst, on the one hand, it
 “ would neither be politic nor
 “ just, suddenly and without due
 “ investigation, to make great
 “ alterations in the policy of the
 “ country, or in its encourage-
 “ ment given to particula
 “ branches of commerce, even
 “ though they might not now be
 “ thought judicious; yet, on the
 “ other hand, we should be as
 “ cautious not too rigidly to ad-
 “ here to old customs and no-

“ tions, and, by doing so, shut
 “ out all improvements

“ The opening of the East
 “ India trade I should consider
 “ somewhat like the discovery of
 “ a great improvement in ma-
 “ chinery; in which case, it
 “ would not be thought right to
 “ lay a duty on the produce of
 “ the new invention, so as to de-
 “ prive the country of the be-
 “ nefit of it, for the sole purpose
 “ of keeping up the value of the
 “ old and exploded machinery.
 “ Before such a benefit as that of
 “ having sugar at a greatly re-
 “ duced price should be thrown
 “ away, a very strong case
 “ should be made out. Even if
 “ the West India planters are
 “ now producing at as low a price
 “ as their mode of culture will
 “ admit of, is it right for the
 “ country to be entirely shut out
 “ from the great benefits of the
 “ system of free cultivation:
 “ and if, on a full investigation,
 “ there is any plan which would
 “ enable them to produce sugars
 “ cheaper, that plan ought first
 “ to be adopted. One of the
 “ items of expense attached to
 “ the West India cultivation will
 “ be found to be the interest of
 “ a capital, which Colquhoun
 “ estimates at about thirty-five
 “ millions, invested in 634,000

“ of our fellow men. Whether
 “ such an item could with any
 “ propriety be entertained in a
 “ country, where, if man breathes,
 “ he is free, I will not now stop
 “ to inquire; but rather consider
 “ what this charge amounts to,
 “ and whether, under proper
 “ management, it should not
 “ have been greatly lessened, or
 “ ceased to exist altogether.

“ I find, by the review of the
 “ Registry Laws, undertaken and
 “ published by a committee of
 “ the African Institution, in 1820,

“ that, in a period before the abo-
 “ lition, the Assembly of Ja-
 “ maica estimated the loss at 7000
 “ annually, or nearly 2 per cent.

“ In a period since the abolition,
 “ not quite half per cent. And
 “ we will suppose another very
 “ probable case in which they
 “ might increase at the rate of
 “ $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. and taking the in-
 “ terest at 6 per cent. the account
 “ will stand thus:

“ In the first case, £35,000,000
 “ at $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. would be
 “ £2,970,000 or very nearly 20s.

“ per cwt. on the sugar consumed
 “ in this country, on which it
 “ mostly falls.

“ In the second, which is about
 “ the present state of the case,
 “ under an improved treatment
 “ of the slaves, since the aboli-
 “ tion, $6\frac{1}{2}$ per cent, will be
 “ £2,270,000; and it is remarka-

“ ble how very near this sum is
 “ to 15s. per cwt. the difference
 “ of duty, as a protection, which
 “ was proposed between East and
 “ West India sugars.

“ In the third supposed case
 “ of an increase of the number
 “ of negroes, $2\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. will
 “ have to be deducted from the
 “ 6 per cent. not only on account
 “ of their increased number, but
 “ also from the increased quantity
 “ of sugar they would make,
 “ then the account would stand
 “ at $3\frac{1}{2}$ per cent. or £1,225,000,
 “ or about 8s. per cwt.—This
 “ might be carried still further, to
 “ show the effects of a still
 “ greater increase; but I trust it
 “ is pretty clear that the faster
 “ the slaves increase the cheaper

“ can the sugars be afforded from “ when, in 1817, they appear to
 “ an increased quantity of them. “ be 345,252; this is an extra-
 “ There is, perhaps, no prin- “ ordinary, not to say suspicious,
 “ ciple in the nature of man more “ increase in two years. Now
 “ generally admitted, than his “ during the last twenty years
 “ tendency to increase under fa- “ there must have been large im-
 “ vourable circumstances and “ portations, and yet the whole
 “ good treatment; and hence it “ increase is trifling to what it
 “ follows, where men are free, “ ought to have been, even with-
 “ that according to the demand “ out any importations at all; for
 “ for labour will be the increase “ it is not very probable that, for
 “ of labourers. In this country, “ a long period, there can have
 “ where there is *very often* great “ been any great disparity be-
 “ distress from the want of em- “ tween the numbers of sexes;
 “ ployment, still it is very pro- “ in 1817, there appear to be 74
 “ bable the numbers will have “ females more than males
 “ increased in twenty years, at “ It is to be hoped that no por-
 “ least 30 per cent. In Ame- “ tion of the increase between
 “ rica, where there is *seldom* a “ 1815 to 1817 has arisen from
 “ want of employment, the po- “ illicit importation; but even
 “ pulation will probably have “ the Registry Laws, since their
 “ doubled in twenty years; and “ adoption, seem to afford doubt-
 “ in the West Indies, where, I “ ful security; for the African
 “ presume there is *never* a want “ Committee, in their review of
 “ of employment, it will rest with “ some of them, state, that,
 “ the planters to show *why they* “ ‘ Instead of giving new secu-
 “ *have not doubled*. “ ‘ rity to freedom, they expose
 “ The number of slaves in “ ‘ it to new and unprece-
 “ Jamaica in the year 1800 was “ ‘ dented dangers; instead of
 “ 300,939; in 1815, 313,814; “ ‘ preventing, they tend to fa-

“ facilitate and protect a contra-
 “ band slave trade.”

“ If the quantity of sugars had
 “ greatly increased they would
 “ doubtless have fallen in price,
 “ such must also have been
 “ the case with slaves ; indeed,
 “ had they increased as fast as
 “ the population of America, in
 “ the last twenty years, they
 “ would probably have been of
 “ very little value, as a saleable
 “ commodity, *which is the natu-*
 “ *tural state of man ;* and I do
 “ not at present know of any
 “ thing but *some sort of abuse*
 “ preventing his natural increase,
 “ which can make him long re-
 “ tain any price, and until this
 “ supposed cause of their not in-
 “ creasing is completely and en-
 “ tirely removed by satisfactory
 “ proof, the West India planter
 “ can have no ground for intro-
 “ ducing this item into the esti-
 “ mated cost of his sugars ; for,
 “ it never can be admitted, *that*
 “ *any man shall claim a benefi-*
 “ *from his own neglect or miscon-*
 “ *duct.*

“ If this item of expense can
 “ fairly be removed from the
 “ cost of West India cultivation,
 “ there would be very little
 “ ground to seek for any great
 “ difference in duty ; but though
 “ I do most strongly object to
 “ any tax on the country which
 “ must tend to perpetuate or to
 “ increase human misery, yet I
 “ feel as strong a desire that the
 “ money of the country may be
 “ liberally used when it can be
 “ made to remove or alleviate
 “ its sufferings. If the general
 “ difference of duty between East
 “ and West India sugars stood
 “ at 3s. per Cwt., I would allow
 “ a bounty of 2s. or 3s. per Cwt.
 “ on the produce of any island,
 “ which should make its Registry
 “ Laws effectual, should impose
 “ restrictions on the working of
 “ the slaves, (as in this country
 “ has been done on Cotton mills,
 “ though the labourers there are
 “ free,) should make such other
 “ regulations as humanity dictates
 “ for the amelioration of the con-
 “ dition of this oppressed race.

“ Should such plans and regulations as these be adopted, the decreased employment of the slaves might for a short interval, decrease the quantity of sugar produced, thence lessen the employment of shipping; but this would only be temporary, and then but a transfer, for it would require a much greater number of ships to bring the same quantity of produce from the East; and lessening the work of the slaves, who have *probably too much*, would increase that of the ship carpenters, sailors, &c. who have *certainly too little*. — There can be little doubt that any thing which would materially reduce the prices of sugar, would increase its consumption, and this increase being at first brought from the East Indies, would be a very great means of relieving the shipping interest, in which there cannot be much less than thirty millions sterling, at present, employed to very little profit. In this great naval country an increased employment of shipping has been thought worthy of consideration, even when it *added* to the price of goods, and surely it will not be thought less worthy of it, where an increased employment of ships will produce goods at a *lower* price.

“ These measures I am persuaded would soon produce such an increased quantity of sugar in the East, as would save the consumers in England one million and a half annually, whilst, by a greatly augmented consumption, the revenue would be increased, the shipping interest flourish again; and, above all, it would produce such an effect on the prices of sugar throughout Europe, as would make slaves nowhere worth importing, and thus put an end for ever to the devastations of the Slave trade on the African coast, and open the way to the civilization of that devoted and oppressed

“ but interesting portion of the
“ globe.

“ I could enlarge much farther
“ on the advantages so obviously
“ arising on every side from mea-
“ sures of sound policy, grounded
“ on principles of humanity ; but
“ if I shall have convinced thee
“ of the correctness of my opi-

nions, I am sure I shall have
“ said enough to engage those
“ powers of eloquence, which
“ have been so successfully ex-
“ erted in the cause of this op-
“ pressed people. I am, with
“ great respect, thy friend,

“ JAMES CROPPER.”

COTTAGE ECONOMY.

In consequence of the Application of several gentlemen, the *next Number* of this little work will contain a **PLATE** representing the **BREWING MACHINE** in all its parts, accompanied with explanations of their several uses in the process of brewing, together with a statement of the different *prices* of the Machine in its various sizes.—*Two editions* of the first Number have been published, and a third is in the press.—The Next Number will be published on the *first of September*.

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